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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON

October 29, 1917.

Sir Robert A. Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Canada.

My dear Sir Robert:

You will remember President Powell's remarks at the Drexel celebration. They came as a great surprise to the Commissioner of Education, to Dr. Godfrey, and to all the rest of us. I need hardly say that President Powell did not represent the Government on his recent trip to Europe.

I have called the attention of the Association of American Universities to the matter which President Powell seems to be attempting to forward, and I learn that the Association has been interesting itself in the plan of Oxford University to grant the Ph.D. degree. Dean Herman V. Ames, of the University of Pennsylvania, has asked me to secure information in regard to the requirements for this degree. Knowing your interest in the movement, I venture to ask you to refer me to some person who can enlighten us on this point.

May I also say that efforts will be made to see that President Powell does not further assume to

speak for the Government.

Sincerely yours,

S. P. Capen

Specialist in Higher Education.

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November 1st, 1917

Dr. S. P. Capen,
Bureau of Education,
Department of Interior,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Capen:

I did not hear President Powell's remarks at the Drexel Celebrations as they were made before my arrival, and I only got word of them in a general way from Dr. Godfrey and yourself, consequently I have only a vague recollection as to what he said.

I do not know just how far Oxford University has gone in the way of granting a Ph.D. degree, but I think that if you were to write to H. T. Gerrans, Esq., Worcester College, Oxford, mentioning my name, he will be able to give you the most recent information with regard to what is being done in Oxford. Probably you could find what is being done by the Universities of Britain as a whole by writing to Dr. Alexander Hill, Secretary of the Universities Bureau of the British Empire, Imperial Institute, London, England.

Yours sincerely,

President.